

THE INDEPENDENT

— ISSUED —

EVERY AFTERNOON

(Except Sunday)

At "Brito Hall," Konia Street.

TELEPHONE 841

"Gainst the wrong that needs resistance,
For the right that needs assistance,
For the future in the distance
And the good that we can do."

"I am in the place where I am demanded
of conscience to speak the truth, and the truth
I speak, impugn it who so list."

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G. C. KENYON, - - Manager.

Re-siding in Honolulu

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1895.

THE REGISTRATION ACT.

It may be sincerely hoped that the Registration Act now before the Legislature will be passed and become law. The act was introduced in 1892 by Mr. Paul Neumann, if we remember rightly, and it met the opposition of the Hawaiians who under some misunderstanding of the principles of registration took an intense dislike to the bill. This feeling was finally overcome and the act was passed with many amendments of which some were beneficial and others were not. The bill was then sent from the Legislature to the Cabinet for the Queen's signature, but somehow or other after the signature was obtained the bill disappeared and was never heard of again.

The bill is supposed to be in the best interests of the country. We state briefly some of the points in favor of the Act:

1. It practically establishes a permanent census of all classes of residents in the Hawaiian Islands, which should be, if properly carried out, absolutely accurate, not only as regards the permanent population, but of transient residents whose movements would be recorded.

2. It will show the exact proportion of the distribution of labor, in industrial, commercial and other pursuits among the cosmopolitan population, and will materially assist in preventing—if not absolutely doing so—Asiatics from leaving their permitted fields of labor to engage in mechanical and commercial pursuits injurious to the interests of the American and European population.

3. It can be made useful in establishing on a permanent basis what is very much needed here—a complete registration of births, deaths and marriage and in tracing missing friends, heirs, etc.

4. It can be made useful for electoral purposes.

5. It will be of material assistance to the cause of good government in keeping track of criminal or dangerous classes.

6. Instead of being an expensive experiment, it would in its result to be a very economical measure, as the staff sufficient to carry out its provisions consisting principally of persons holding government positions would be practically permanent, and paid for the extra labor thrown upon them by their fees. It would prevent the necessity of a recurrent

census, a portion of the appropriation for which might be applied to the initiation of the Registration law.

7. After the Act has been brought into working order, it is believed that its working expenses would almost be paid by the fees, small in individual amount though they are.

8. It will simplify and assist in the collection of taxes.

9. It will be of material assistance to merchants, tradesmen and others in the collection of debts.

10. It will prevent the assumption of dual names by the Chinese.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

The exhibit made by the Minister of Finance of the financial condition of the Government is deserving praise for its thorough honesty. It may be very awkward, however, to reconcile the exhibit under consideration with the statements which have appeared from time to time from his department. The fact is that this "best government the islands ever had" has been spending 30 thousand dollars a month more than its revenues, and what it could borrow besides. The Minister is misleading when he says that the crisis has passed when everybody who has any knowledge of public finances knows that from this time on to the 15th of December is the period when the strain upon the Treasury is particularly felt. It must be apparent to a casual observer that a government that is not of, and by, the people cannot expect a sympathetic response from tax payers when in need. What is now given is grudgingly given. To be consistent, the government by nineteen citizens and their servants must carry out the oligarchical idea and force loans and taxes, or come to grief.

To say that Government bonds are selling at par is not honest, for it is well known that thirty thousand dollars were purchased lately at 98, and it is said that the Government paid a broker's commission besides.

The Government is showing the white feather in referring every bill that provokes discussion to the regular session. Is this an irregular one? This putting off the evil day is not wise, for—mark our words—the Legislature is in better temper to-day than it is likely to be when it assembles again. Having put your hands to the plow, Messrs. Ministers, you should not hesitate. It is now or never.

Has the W. C. T. U. been holding an executive session? We judge that it has, and committed its conclusions to the hands of Mr. Waterhouse. Of course all temperance legislation must go over until the regular session; for it would not do to press it now—as mercenaries as a rule are not abstainers. When between the devil and the deep sea the Government cannot afford even to give a reform measure its support, for fear of losing its supporters.

With its to be expected misremembering of financial obligations—the Evening Bulletin still holds that faith has been broken with the public, but not first by the present administration, in the matter of currency. It goes on to state that a former government did this by refusing payment of government dues in silver certificates above \$10

in value. This is a pure misstatement of the facts. Some years back a deal was consummated to please the banks and maintain a gold reserve in the country by which the Government's, that is the people's, money was spent to over \$80,000, in exchanging the silver deposits into gold, and the Legislature demanded the redemption of all denominations of silver certificates having a face value of over \$10 by gold coin. When the fears of a gold crisis had passed away, the banks and the commercial magnates wanted that gold as gold was scarce, and government obligation were being met in silver as the *hanc finance* of the community would not pay taxes, or anything else, but in silver, and hoarded the gold redeemable certificates. Finally such pressure was brought to bear that the Legislature repealed the gold redemption clauses, and so enabled the then Minister of Finance to consecrate the gold deposits to the uses of the commercial community; and the government, that is, the people generally, again lost in the deal to satisfy the wishes of the magnates. Thenceforward certificates of all denominations were redeemable only in silver, and were of course refused whenever the law commanded payment of government dues in gold.

In British communities franchises exclusive are never granted so that monopolies can rob the public. The Legislature—that is the actual representatives of the community—and the various municipalities (the representatives of the property owning classes) always keep a string tied to the grants so as to recall any privileges in case of abuse or extortion. Why not follow such a course in Hawaii? The Senate did so in regard to the Hilo Electric Co.'s bill.

And the Star wants now to grant special facilities to the present Tramway Company. It says "It would be more business like to fatten up the present transit concern." Oh what a change! Scarcely one short twelve-month and the Tramway company's management both editorially, and by its newspaper shareholding correspondents, was outrageously vilified and revocation of its charter was loudly demanded. Good for the Tramway management. Manager Paine has succeeded in transforming an enemy into a friend.

The Star has last evening discovered that the community might be interested in the school bill—after it had been killed that morning by the previous efforts of THE INDEPENDENT. Rep van Winkle is away out of sight beside this.

What an insinuation is contained in the following statement from last evening's Bulletin. "When a certificate is redeemed at the treasury it should be laid aside and not reissued until its value in coin is restored to the special deposit." No wonder our immaculate Minister of Finance wants to find out how many certificates he has to redeem if this has been the case. The public, relying on the direct obligations of the law, believes each certificate to have its face value in coin lying for its redemption in the Treasury. Is the contrary the case?

What the Bulletin means by stating "There is no need to have coin bagged away for the redemption of any greater amount of certificates than is in circulation" is utterly incomprehensible. Does the financial

editor mean to state that the Minister of Finance is bagging away coin with a view of redeeming certificates not in circulation? The law requires the bagging of the coin for every certificate issued and that coin is paid out when that certificate is presented for redemption.

The Advertiser says that the vote on Princess Kaiulani's allowance does not show a lack of confidence in the administration. We must say that to a man on the fence it has that complexion. The item was inserted in the Appropriation Bill by the President and his Cabinet, was defended by the Ministry and refused in spite of them. But, don't you know, that "want of confidence" is a monarchical idea. The "dear people be damned" has a republican ring to it.

Instead of putting over measures to the next regular session, why not take them into executive session and let Mr. Hatch swing his club as he did in the matter of Mr. Castle's confirmation. No charge for this suggestion.

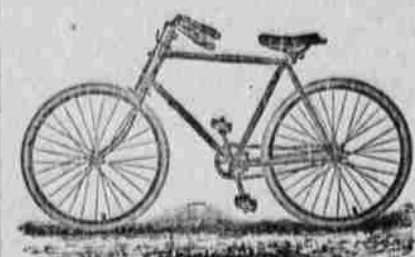
The Minister of Finance went through the valley of humiliation yesterday when he implored the creditors of "the best government these islands ever had" to be patient in the matter of dunning. This means that the butcher and baker and the vegetable peddler must wait until their betters have been served. There is an old axiom that runs something thus wise: "That a man can never pay more when he says he cannot pay."

Mr. Nordhoff said in one of his imitable letters that the P. G. had a bear by the paws and did not know how to let go. It certainly looks very much that way.

A valued subscriber and contributor to our paper asks us why we scored President Hosmer of Oahu College so seriously. Our answer is that there are some things that we can forgive, but the corrupter of youth is not one of them. When the head of a school will permit, possibly connive at, the wholesale theft of the utterances of an author by a pupil, without reference to the author and proper credit, we say without fear of contradiction that he has laid the foundation for a career of deceit in that youth and all else that the term implies.

Professor Scott, member of the Board of Education explained to the editor of this paper to-day that the intent of the proposed school bill was in no way to interfere with the private schools in the country. The bill was directed against certain Chinese schools where English is not taught and where the attendance of pupils is confined to less than two hours a day. By attending such schools the Chinese children have heretofore evaded the existing school laws. To prevent that the bill was framed. The professor admitted that the bill in its present form was a most bungling piece of law framing and that it would be necessary to rewrite the bill to make it sensible, effective and comprehensible in English. He didn't state who was the father of the act in its present shape but insinuated that some native boy in the fourth form probably wrote it. The professor's explanation is excellent (W. R. Castle's not having been heard from) but we believe that for the present the bill is killed and the Chinese school will be left alone. Who wants to teach English to Chinese anyhow?

Timely Topics.



Honolulu, July 9, 1895.

Lord Rosebury is out and Lord Salisbury is in. The change is of course of the greatest importance and it is proper to look into the causes which led to the speedy downfall of the Liberal party. The majority of the Liberals will say that the retirement of Gladstone from the premiership made his party weak, and that Rosebury could not hold the different factions together. Others will claim that the vacillating foreign policy pursued by the Liberal government made the party which it represented and from which it gained its power unpopular. The English people are always preaching peace themselves, but they do not allow their government to do it and they are jealous of any real or imaginary attempt to infringe on their dignity as a nation by any "blasted turriner." The vexed question of Home Rule has a job on blamed for the downfall of the Liberals, and there is no doubt that the failure to solve that question has something to do with Rosebury's defeat. It is finally said that the ex-premier's inclination for race horses made him unpopular among the very Christian middle classes who consider betting on the track and all the other paraphernalia of a horse race as works of His Satanic Majesty. And that is the real mistake made by Lord Rosebury. If he had possessed sufficient wisdom he would have dropped horse racing and horses and he would have purchased a Monarch Bicycle and gone out wheeling. We are now expecting a fresh invoice. It took only one month to sell the first lot imported by us. We have only two wheels left and they are both intended for ladies. The wheel is becoming so popular and so fashionable in Honolulu that very shortly everybody that knows enough to be in the move will own a Monarch and spin along streets and roads. As long as you sit on them you can't fall off. The Monarch is as intelligent as a horse and carries you perfectly safe, and it never shies. We suggest to all persons who now ride or who intend to do so to leave their orders for a Monarch now. Our invoice will be here in the "Australia" and it may be too late to secure a wheel after the steamer arrives. Orders are now pouring in. Remember that we are the Sole Agents of the Monarch in the Hawaiian Islands, and that the wheel cannot be purchased elsewhere in Honolulu.

The Hawaiian Hardware Co., Ltd
307 FORT STREET,
Opposite Spreckels' Block.